

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:H B CUSHING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS STATE 162866

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 9598 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK AND USUN
NEW YORK DATED JULY 23, 1978

QUOTE: UNCLAS GENEVA 09598

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICRC, VM, CB

SUBJECT: RED CROSS (ICRC) APPEAL FOR VIETNAM

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED COPY OF "RESTRICTED APPEAL"
ISSUED BY ICRC TO FOLLOWING SELECTED GOVERNMENTS AND
NATIONAL SOCIETIES "IN LIGHT OF NEW CONFLICT SITUATION":
ALGERIA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CANADA,
CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY
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(GDR), GERMANY (FRG), GREAT BRITAIN, HUNGARY, JAPAN,
NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, POLAND, ROMANIA, SWEDEN,
SWITZERLAND, USA, USSR, AND YUGOSLAVIA.

2. APPEAL IS SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN SUMMARY:

A. AFTER RECENT BORDER CLASHES, ICRC ASKED KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM FOR PERMISSION TO ASSIST PRISONERS AND OTHER VICTIMS OF CONFLICT. VIETNAM IMMEDIATELY AGREED AND TWO ICRC DELEGATES SPENT MAY 17-19 IN VIETNAM WHERE THEY VISITED BORDER AREAS, ACCOMPANIED BY ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE IN HANOI, AND INTERVIEWED PRISONERS. VIETNAM HAS AGREED TO AUTHORIZE FURTHER VISITS TO OTHER CENTERS WHERE KAMPUCHEANS HELD.

B. DELEGATES VISITED AREAS WHERE DISPLACED PERSONS (DP'S) LOCATED AND CONFIRMED THERE ARE URGENT NEEDS FOR MEDICAMENTS, FOOD AND CLOTHING, IN THAT ORDER OF PRIORITY, FOR SOME 725,000 DP'S NOT INCLUDING 150,000 KAMPUCHEAN REFUGEES WITH WHOM UNHCR CONCERNED AND FOR WHOM IT HAS MADE EMERGENCY ALLOCATION OF ONE MILLION SWISS FRANCS FOR THREE-MONTH PERIOD.

C. AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (LICROSS) AND UNHCR, AND IN VIEW OF URGENCY, ICRC TAKING FOLLOWING IMMEDIATE ACTION:

(1) ARRANGING FOR PURCHASE IN FAR EAST AND AIR TRANSPORT TO HO CHI MINH VILLE OF FIRST ADVANCE CONSIGNMENT OF MEDICAMENTS WORTH 100,000 SWISS FRANCE, BUT MUCH MORE NEEDED.

(2) DISCUSSING URGENTLY WITH EEC AND FAO EARLY SHIPMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL QUANTITIES OF RICE, CEREALS AND MILK
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POWDER.

(3) LAUNCHING THIS URGENT APPEAL FOR AID IN CASH OR IN KIND.

D. AT REQUEST OF SRV AND (VIETNAMESE) RED CROSS ALL SUPPLIES WILL BE DELIVERED TO HO CHI MINH VILLE AND THEREAFTER DISTRIBUTED AND HANDLED BY SRV RED CROSS WHICH IS ALREADY DEPLOYED AND ACTIVE IN AFFECTED AREA. SPECIAL MARKINGS TO FACILITATE TRACING, CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON. ICRC DELEGATION IN HANOI HAS "CLOSEST COOPERATION" WITH SRV RED CROSS, AND IS BEING GRANTED ALL NECESSARY FACILITIES.

E. ICRC ALSO PROPOSES TO OFFER MEDICAL DELEGATE OR TEAM TO ASSIST IN VACCINATION CAMPAIGN OR OTHER MEDICAL ACTIVITY DESIRED.

F. ALTHOUGH LEAGUE AND ICRC HAVE CERTAIN FUNDS WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF JOINT OPERATION, COORDINATED BY INDSEC, THEY ARE VIRTUALLY ALL COMMITTED TO ON-GOING PROJECTS AND REQUIREMENTS ARISING FROM WAR ENDING IN APRIL 1975. ICRC WITH LEAGUE AGREEMENT, NEVERTHELESS, DRAWING ON THESE

FUNDS AS TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT TO MEET THIS NEW CONFLICT
SITUATION AND RESPOND TO MOST URGENT NEEDS WHILE SEEKING
HELP OF SOCIETIES AND POTENTIAL DONOR GOVERNMENTS.

G. VIRTUALLY ALL REQUIREMENTS CAN BE PURCHASED MORE
QUICKLY AND CHEAPLY IN FAR EAST, BUT SHOULD ANY SOCIETIES
OR GOVERNMENT WISH RESPOND WITH OFFER IN KIND, FULL LIST
OF MEDICAMENTS AND OTHER SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR SIX-MONTH
PERIOD IS ATTACHED.

END SUMMARY.

3. MISSION AIR POUCHING TEXT OF APPEAL AND ATTACHMENT
TO DEPARTMENT (HA).
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SORENSEN UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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